

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/846,758

Examiner

Marjorie Moran

Applicant(s)

LIU ET AL.

Art Unit

1631

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the RCE request of 2/28/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9, 11-21, 23-25 and 34.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>5/11/07</u> |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

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A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 2/28/07 has been entered.

Claims 1-9, 11-20, 23-25, and 34 are pending. In view of the allowability of claim 1 for the reasons set forth below, claims 12-14 are hereby rejoined.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Tanya Harding on 5/11/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 8: In line 1, after "record", replace "a" with --the at least one--.

Claim 18: In line 2, replace "a specific" with --the--.

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Claim 23: In line 2, replace "a specific" with --the--.

Claim 24: In line 2, after "element and", insert --wherein--. Also in line 2, delete "specific".

Claim 25: In line 6, insert --one of-- after "display". Also in line 6, delete "specific". In line 7, replace "phenotype" with --traits--.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record teaches only recording dominant mutant traits in plants after mutagenesis with an insertional mutagen, but does not teach or suggest analysis of a second generation for recessive mutations. While the prior art of record does teach analyzing/recording mutant traits in a second generation (e.g. Neff et al.), those mutant traits are dominant or semi-dominant, and the analysis is performed to confirm the first generation mutation. The prior art of Sijmons (US 5,770,786) teaches analysis of plants mutagenized with an insertional mutagen wherein the FIRST generation is analyzed for recessive mutants traits. Dhugga et al. (US 6,194,638) teaches mutagenizing plants with an insertional mutagen wherein a first generation has a wild-type (i.e. non-mutant) phenotype and the second generation is analyzed for recessive mutations. None of the prior art teaches or suggest analysis of a second generation for a recessive mutation following analysis of

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a first generation for a dominant mutation after mutagenesis of a plant with an insertional mutagen.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Claims 1-9, 11-21, 23-25 and 34 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marjorie Moran whose telephone number is 571-272-0720. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30 am- 2 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ram Shukla can be reached on 571-272-0735. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Marjorie Moran
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1631

Marjorie A. Moran
5/12/07